



7th May
2024

NEWSLETTER

Te Reo o te Kura o Hato Hoani
The voice of St John's School

Kia ora whānau,

I am delighted to welcome everyone back for Term 2. I hope you have had a restful and rejuvenating break and are ready for another exciting term of learning. The children have come back ready to learn and are enjoying being back with their friends. It has been lovely to hear about what they have been up to over the holidays, be it at home or away. A special welcome to our new whānau and akonga in Rooms 11 and 12. There are many exciting things being planned for this term and I ask that you keep an eye on the school calendar for more information as it is shared.

FINLAND

Over the holidays I had the opportunity to visit Finland on a study tour with 19 other New Zealand and Australian Principals. We spent a week visiting schools and attending lectures, learning about the Finnish Education system.

It was lovely spending time with the children and their teachers and seeing what was different and what was similar to our own school. What really hit home with me is that children are children, no matter where they go to school and the love of learning through play is universal.



While the days were filled with learning, we did have a chance to have a bit of fun ourselves and we took the opportunity to experience a bit of Finnish culture with a sauna and frozen lake 'ice swim' as well as going along to support the local ice hockey team in the playoff.

CATHOLIC CHARACTER REVIEW 21ST and 22ND MAY



Catholic Diocese of Auckland
Te Taumata o te Hahi Katorika

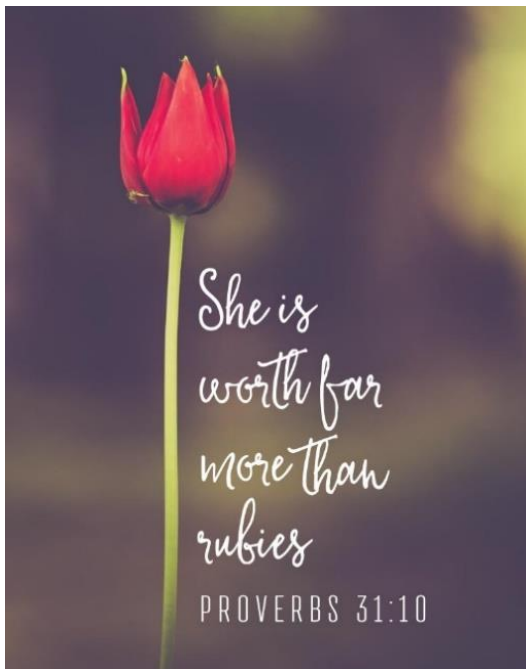
if you have lost or cannot access the link, or would prefer to complete the survey on paper.

We will be welcoming the team with a pōwhiri on 21st May at 9:00am, and you are most welcome to attend. Any men who would like to korero as tangata whenua, please let me know.

The review team would like to chat with a group of parents as part of the process. If you would like to be part of this, please email me MarinaB@sjmb.school.nz

As you would have read in the email sent yesterday, on May 21st and 22nd, we welcome Mr Philip Mahoney and Mrs Christine Smith, the External Catholic Character review team from the Auckland Diocese to St John's.

The email contained a link for a whānau survey. Thank you to those who have already completed this. Your voice is important, and we really appreciate your input and feedback in this process. Please let me know

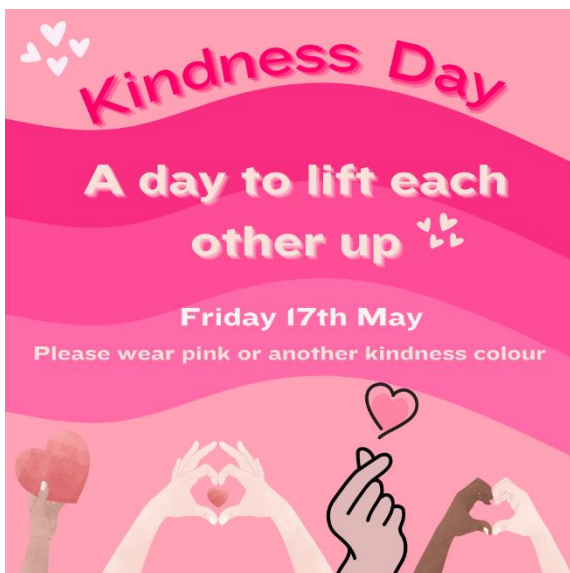


MOTHER'S DAY

As Mother's Day approaches, we want to take a moment to honour and celebrate the incredible mothers within our school community. Motherhood is a journey filled with boundless love, sacrifice, and unwavering support. Whether you are a mother, grandmother, aunt, or guardian, your role in shaping the lives of our students is immeasurable and invaluable.

This Mother's Day, let us extend our heartfelt gratitude to all the remarkable women who nurture, inspire, and empower us every day. Your guidance, strength, and endless devotion contribute to the foundation of our school's vibrant community.

To all the mothers, we wish you a day filled with love, laughter, and cherished moments with your loved ones. May you be celebrated not only on this special day but every day for the extraordinary impact you make in the lives of your children and our school family.



PINK DAY

On Friday 17th May our school will be taking part in a non-uniform day for Pink Shirt Day, an annual national initiative.

As a Catholic school, we believe in nurturing our students to become compassionate and respectful individuals who embody the teachings of Jesus Christ. Pink Shirt Day is a perfect opportunity for us to come together as a community and reinforce these values.

We look forward to seeing all of our students and staff wearing pink on Pink Shirt Day as we stand together to promote kindness, respect, and inclusivity. This is to raise awareness and no donation is required.

THANK YOU

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the parents who volunteer their time so willingly to help in the school; assisting with school trips and transport, helping in the classroom and assisting with programmes such as Garden to Table and PMP, putting away resources for the teachers, coaching and managing our numerous sports teams, and joining us on the PTFA, in celebrating Masses and liturgies and joining with us at school events. We appreciate your continued support and involvement.

ESOL AFTERNOON TEA



Thank you to all those parents who took the time to attend the afternoon tea for parents of students attending ESOL classes. It was lovely to meet the new families and have the chance to chat with those who have been in our community for a while. A special thank to Mrs Grace Atmadji, our ESOL Co-ordinator and Mrs Christine McFadzean and Mrs Kathy Williams, our ESOL Teachers, for all their work supporting these students and for organising this time together.

God bless,
Marina Binns
Principal - Tumuaki



PARISH/SCHOOL PENTECOST VIGIL MASS Saturday 18th May, 5:30pm at St John's Church

This Mass is organised and led by the school and parish. All students and their families are warmly invited to attend. This is a time for the school and parish communities to come together in a celebration of our faith. Please consider setting this time aside to participate in this Mass with other families from the school.

Are you able to commit to attending this mass? We are looking for students and their families to serve in the Ministry of the Word, Eucharist, Altar serving and music. Please complete [the linked form](#) to let us know how you and/or your children would like to be involved.

At Pentecost, due to the grace and power of the Holy Spirit, people who would have been separated by language and nationality were brought together. This unity is a characteristic of the Church and marks the beginning of the Church. It reminds us that the Church is meant for all peoples.

PARISH CHILDREN'S MASS AND PENTECOST

Thank you to all the St John's students who participated in the Parish Children's Mass on 21st April. It was lovely to see the children taking on active roles, reading the Word, bringing up the offertory, leading the singing and the Prayers of the Faithful.

We extend a warm invitation to all St John's students who would like to participate in the parish Children's Masses. These are held every third Sunday of the Month at the 9:00am Mass at St John's.

The next Mass is 19th May which is Pentecost Sunday, the birthday of the Church.



MASS IN TE REO MĀORI



A monthly Mass is held in te reo Māori at the Hato Petera Chapel in Northcote.

You are warmly invited to attend Mass on 11th May at 5pm.

Ngā mihi,
Cara Mountjoy
Director of Religious Studies

STAFF NEWS

Mr David Harper, has finished his time with us as school caretaker. We are grateful that he was able to step into this role when Mr Dixon left and thank him for his work over the last three terms. We wish him all the best on his next adventures.

SPORTS NEWS

Reminder: Kiwi Kick Stars sessions start THIS week, Thursday lunchtime for 8 weeks. It is not too late to enrol, if you wish to register your child(ren) go to www.kiwikickstars.com

WINTER UNIFORM

This week continues to be a crossover period for uniform where the children can wear either the Summer or Winter uniform. We ask that, whichever you choose, it is worn completely, not mix and matched. School hats are not needed for Terms 2 and 3. From next Monday, 13th May we ask that all children are in full Winter uniform until the end of Term 3.

Winter Uniform	
Tunic:	Navy monogrammed drop waist tunic
Culottes:	Navy with school name
Shorts:	Navy with school name
Shirt:	Freight blue long sleeve monogrammed polo (short sleeve can be worn with shorts or culottes if preferred)
Fleece:	Navy zip front monogrammed polar fleece
Ribbons:	Red, navy, blue or white
Shoes:	Black leather lace up, velcro, buckle or T-bar school shoes with a heel height of no greater than 2.5cm. Black trainers are not considered school shoes. If you are unsure, please discuss with the school.
Socks:	Plain black knee length wool/elastane mix

PE UNIFORM: The School has a PE uniform comprising of school PE polo shirt and dark blue shorts. Children are expected to wear their sports uniform for P.E. throughout the year. In winter children are able to add the school polar fleece to their sports uniform. Sports/Physical Education clothes are to be brought to School on Mondays and remain there until taken home for washing on Friday. The sports uniform must not be worn to and from school.

PTFA

St John's


PTFA MEETING

Date: 7th of May

Time: 7.00pm

Location: St John's staffroom

Come join us in sharing ideas and building a vibrant community within our school! Let's come together to support one another and make new connections. Whether it's virtually or in person, let's collaborate and create positive change together!



St John's PTFA

Frozen Friday!

\$2 a juicie

This Friday





ST JOHN'S PTFA
PRESENTS

BINGO NIGHT

Friday 17th May

St John's Hall

Come along on your own or with a friend.
BYO food to share and drinks.

Doors Open At 7:00pm

Tickets cost \$10 per person-
Available on KINDO

ANZAC PARADE – LEST WE FORGET



Participating in ANZAC Day services provides an opportunity for children to connect with their community and understand the role they play in honouring those who have served our country. It also helps them to develop a sense of national pride and understand the importance of coming together to pay our respects and remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice to protect our freedoms and way of life.

It was a moment of pride to see our school represented again this year at the Browns Bay Civic ANZAC Parade and Service. We had a wonderful turnout from the community, and I would like to thank all the tamariki and whānau who came and joined our staff representing the school, as well as those who participated as part of other community groups.

A special thanks to our wreath bearers, Maggie-Rose, Violet and Lily. Together, they laid a wreath made by a group of our students, I would also like to thank Mrs Perry who facilitated our participation.



SCHOOL CALENDAR

Keep up to date with school events through downloading and linking the SJMB Community Calendar. [Link to download calendar](#)

Reminder - **Teachers Only Day on Friday 31st May**. This is the Friday before King's Birthday.

You will have seen **Whole School Assemblies** added to the Community Calendar. These are held on Friday afternoons at various points during the term as a way for the whole school to gather. They start with Liturgy and we invite you to join us if you wish. While we are happy for you to photograph your child if they are doing any sharing, for privacy reasons we request you do not take photographs of other people.

TAX DEDUCTIONS ON SCHOOL DONATIONS

The Special Character Donation, the Parent Contribution Donation, the School Development Contribution Donation and the School Fixtures and Fittings Contribution Donation and any other donations to the school are paid on a voluntary basis and therefore are tax deductible (you can claim up to 33.3% of the total donations paid). Go to the IRD site by clicking on the button below and do a keyword search for: **donation tax credit** for more information and to download a claim form.

[IRD](#)

[Instructions for submitting donation receipts](#)

[IR526 claim form](#)

ABSENTEES

As we head towards the colder months of the year, it is not uncommon for children to get sick and need to stay home. This is a friendly reminder to inform the school if your child is away from school. We ask that you phone or email the school office (Ph 09 478 7734, email office@sjmb.school.nz) or submit an absentee form via the [website](#) for each day they are away. For safety reasons, we do not assume that because they were away yesterday, they are away for the same reason today.

FROM THE PARISH

YOUNG PARENTS GROUP

If you a parent of babies or preschoolers, you are warmly invited to attend this weekly social group. They meet in the Fr Quinn Room, St John's Church from 10:30am – 12:30pm every Friday. Coffee & Biscuits provided.



Contact: Judith (0278252319) or Sandra (0274336404) or the office at office@ecbcatholic.org.nz

Thank you to our community for their contribution of toys for the new parent's group in the Parish. They were gratefully received. They have informed us they have sufficient and do not require any more at this time.

CATHOLIC SCHOOL PREFERENCE FORMS

Fr Carlo and Fr Emile will be available to sign the forms on Wednesdays, 10am - 12 noon & 1 – 3pm for a 15-minute slot. Please make an appointment through: office@ecbcatholic.org.nz

MONTHLY CHILDREN'S MASS

3rd Sunday: 9.00 am Mass St. John's Church. Contact Lindy lindy@willplan.co.nz

NEWSLETTER

For more information from the Parish, please see [their regular newsletter](#).